



RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

Municipal Police Training Academy

Community College of Rhode Island — Flanagan Campus

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Colonel Darnell S. Weaver
Superintendent, Rhode Island State Police
Director, Department of Public Safety

Lieutenant Christopher J. Zarrella
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Municipal Police Training Academy

Police Officers Commission on Standards & Training Quarterly Meeting Minutes

May 18, 2023

1. Welcome and Roll Call

Colonel Winquist called to order the regular meeting of the Police Officers Commission on Standards & Training (POST) at 10:00 a.m. on **May 18, 2023 at the Rhode Island Municipal Police Academy.**

Colonel Winquist took a roll call. The following POST members were present at the meeting: Colonel Michael Winquist, Chief Elwood Johnson, Colonel Anthony Roberson, Colonel Michael Correia, Edward Mello and Maria Deaton. A quorum has been met. Colonel Perez, Shawn Brown and Chief Goncalves are absent. Also present were Donna Lavallee, Adam Shole, Sergeant Kris Lagor, Paul Dutra and Chief Sidney Wordell. Colonel Oscar Perez and Chief Tina Goncalves are now present

Colonel Winquist reviewed the new members of the POST and welcomed everyone.

2. Review & approval of minutes

- Special Meeting – March 23, 2023. Maria Deaton made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 23, 2023 Special POST meeting; Colonel Correia seconded the motion. With all in favor, 8-0, motion carries.

3. Review of Lateral Applications:

Colonel Winquist stated that this request is for the lateral of Nicholas Maglio from Woonsocket PD to Barrington PD.. Colonel Winquist stated that the package is complete and recommends approval Colonel Correia has recused himself from the vote. Colonel Roberson made a motion to approve the lateral certification of Nicholas Maglio; Maria Deaton seconded the motion. With all in favor 7-0, motion carries.

The next application is for the transfer of Joseph Buban III from the D.E.M. PD to the Foster PD. Captain Tyler Domingos is present. The application package is complete and in order with the exception of the Psychological Report. Maria Deaton made a motion to approve the Lateral Transfer; of Joseph Buban, contingent upon the receipt of a passing Psychological Report; Maria Deaton seconded the motion. With all in favor, 8-0, motion carries.

The next application from Charlestown PD is for Officer Larry Silvestri coming from the U.R.I. PD.to Charlestown PD. Det. Ian Perkins is present. Colonel Winquist asked Det. Perkins about the missing Letter of Good Standing and the Psychological Report. Detective Perkins stated that the Psychological is scheduled for today and that the URI Chief would not do a letter. Detective Perkins

attested to the fact that he reviewed his entire file and there were no disciplinary reports or anything negative. Colonel Winquist asked if he was satisfied with the background check and he replied he is. Colonel Roberson made a motion to approve the lateral of Larry Silvestri contingent upon the successful passing of the Psychological Exam; Maria Deaton seconded the motion. With all in favor 8-0,. Motion carries.

The next application is from CCRI PD for Officer Joseph Petrarca coming from the Warwick PD. Lieutenant Ziegelmayer was present.. Colonel Winquist stated the package is complete with all in order and recommends approval. Chief Johnson made a motion to approve the lateral application; Maria Deaton seconded the motion. With all in favor, 8--0, motion carries.

4. Approval of the following Instructor Applications:

- Captain Jolene Alves, Cumberland PD – Report Writing Instructor
- Sergeant Shawn Clayton, Scituate PD – Report Writing Instructor
- Sergeant Christopher Hannon, Lincoln PD – Patrol Rifle Instructor

Sergeant Lagor stated that the above are all recommended additions to our Instructional staff.

Chief Johnson made a motion to approve the above-named instructors; Colonel Correia seconded the motion. With all in favor, 8-0, motion carries.

5. Approval of Firearms Qualifications Courses

- Barrington Police Department
- Charlestown Police Department
- Coventry Police Department
- Rhode Island Airport Corporation
- University of Rhode Island Police Department
- Warwick Police Department

Colonel Winquist asked for a motion to approve the above Firearms courses. Colonel Perez made a motion to approve the above firearms courses; Colonel Roberson seconded the motion. With all in favor, 8-0, motion carries.

6. Discussion and vote on the COVID Vaccination requirement for recruits

Sergeant Lagor stated that the Academy staff does not oppose the removal of the COVID vaccine mandate. Colonel Winquist added that this can always be re-visited should things change but it seems wise to remove it now. Sergeant Lagor added that on the military side, the Federal mandate has been lifted and new recruits are not required to be vaccinated. Our recruits have been very healthy and there have been no incidents. Chief Johnson made a motion to remove the COVID vaccination mandate for new recruits; Colonel Roberson seconded the motion. With all in favor, 8-0, motion carries. Colonel Winquist asked Donna Lavalley to notify all departments and revise any paperwork and the website.

7. Discussion on a multi-tier certification system for agencies

Mr. Sholes stated that he talked to Lieutenant Colonel Creamer and the issue has been resolved between DPS and the Governor and no POST action is required. Paul Dutra added that these agencies can enforce State Law by the Governor's approval. He recommended that the statutes need to be cleaned up. Chief Mello added that the entire certification process, POST responsibilities, Continuing Education, etc. should be looked at and revised. Colonel Winkvist brought up the Laterals for Providence and stated that the statute states that the POST has no authority over Providence. Chief Wordell stated that a letter will go a long way to sell the initiative of a full review. Any conversation at the State House takes on its own legs and should be done before January.

8. Review of the House Bill H-6181 and S811, Sub A, in consideration of the submission of a letter of opposition/concerns to be drafted by the POST Chair.

Colonel Winkvist began by stating that this bill is enormous and covers numerous topics. Our POST is purely made of a 9-member volunteer commission with no budget. Massachusetts POST has 33 on staff with a \$7 million dollar budget. This bill would by-pass LEOBOR and the POST would be the governing body. There is no fiscal impact statement attached to it. Chief Mello stated that this proposed legislation is high in the sky. There could be other de-certification methods that the POST could take on but not to this extreme. A more formal de-certification process can happen. Chief Wordell added that this bill was submitted by a National organization on police reform. Colonel Winkvist stated that there are two options—Send a letter of opposition or leave it alone at this point. Chief Wordell stated the RIPCA has sent in letters and he suggests sending a letter noting the POST is aware of it and looks forward to address it in the future. He asked who is going to be writing these letters in the future—DPS? Representative from the AG office? Adam Sholes stated that the POST can appoint Colonel Winkvist to send the letter. Maria Deaton added that LEOBOR is a hot issue right now. Colonel Winkvist stated he will draft a letter to just put it on notice. Chief Johnson made a motion to permit Colonel Winkvist to draft a letter on behalf of the POST on the above legislation; Colonel Correa seconded the motion. With all in favor, 8-0, motion carried.

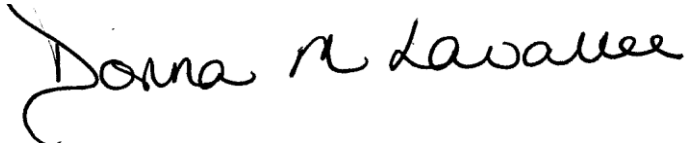
9. Update on Class 2023-I and incoming Class 2023-II

Sergeant Lagor stated that Graduation will be held next Friday, May 26th. He thanked the staff and support of the Chiefs and the fact that this class was one of the better ones is a reflection on the CTO's and he expressed his appreciation. This also was the first class to have the curriculum of Taser and Pistol and it was phenomenal training.

10. Adjournment

Colonel Roberson asked for clarification of the Lateral Policy. Chief Johnson spoke of the Letter of Good Standing and if it is mandatory as some Chiefs will not provide. Colonel Winkvist expressed that a new form should be devised that states the candidate is not leaving because of any disciplinary issues or under investigation. In the past, Chief Mello worked around the missing letter by having the department investigator attest to the findings of the background investigation. Colonel Roberson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:15 am; Chief Johnson seconded the motion. With all in favor, 8-0, meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Donna M Lavalley". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial 'D'.

Donna M. Lavalley
Administrative Assistant